Biosecurity on the Farm

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Signs that may indicate a possible agroterrorism event

- Unusually high number of sick animals, deaths, or abortions
- Abnormal or unusual signs not typically seen for a particular disease
- Disease occurrence outside of its normal expected season
- Multiple outbreaks of the same illness
- Unusual route of exposure suspected
- Multiple cases of mysterious or unusual illness
- Illness occurring in both animals and persons in contact with animals

Prevention and control

- Deter access to your farm
  - Limit access to your farm to one gated road
  - Keep all gates locked when not in use
  - Keep all unused buildings locked
  - Implement rodent and bird control in barns, especially feed areas

- Visitors
  - Post signs to inform visitors of rules to follow while on the farm
  - Monitor and document all visits and visitors to your farm
  - Do not take visitors to livestock areas or barns unless necessary

- Employees
  - Pre-screen new employees
  - Train employees on common disease signs and patterns, so they will recognize unusual illness signs in animals

- Personal
  - Wash hands thoroughly with soap before and after accessing livestock areas
  - Use clean coveralls and rubber or disposable boots for each farm
  - Provide coveralls to all visitors/veterinarians; these coveralls should remain on the farm for cleaning
  - Provide rubber or disposable boots to all visitors or veterinarians; these boots should remain on the farm for disposal or disinfection
  - Do not wear contaminated clothing or boots off of the farm

- Animals
  - Isolate all new animals
  - Never feed table scraps or garbage to farm animals
  - Call the herd veterinarian immediately if unusual illness or signs are noticed

- Vehicles
  - Post signs to designate specific parking and driving areas
  - Park vehicles away from barns and livestock areas, preferably on concrete
  - Avoid the transfer of dirt, mud or manure by vehicles
  - Attend to vehicles carrying livestock at all times

Who to contact

- Keep a list of important phone numbers
  - Herd veterinarian
  - State Veterinarian’s office
  - Local police department
  - Local and State public health department

- If you detect suspicious activity
  - Contact personnel on the above list
  - Monitor livestock until authorities arrive
  - Isolate any livestock with which the intruder may have had contact